(*b*) Yes. The idea of the cost of living is however based on the figures worked out as mentioned in answer to (*a*).

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know whether it will be possible for the Government to prepare and publish this index.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I hope I will be able to do it in another 3 months.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* What about the family budget?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The enquiry has been completed and the report is being written up.

Mr. P. K .Dewer *(Nominated):* The enquiry is over since 3 months, what about the staff?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The staff has been disbanded. The Professors are writing the reports by tabulating all these things, The Professors themselves do it *i.e.*, the Economic Professors of the Maharaja's and St. Thomas Colleges.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Urakam):* They are basing the enquiry on the Calicut data.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* So far as the Calicut data is concerned an enquiry was made and the data was drawn up. The Data taken in that place is used here. But that data will not be the same as the data here.

STATISTICS—COLLECTION OF

19. **Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan** *(Urakam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) on what subjects have Government collected statistical information through their statistical staff;

(*b*) do they propose to publish the same as and when they are collected;

(*c*) have they published any such information till now; if not, why not?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(*a*) (1) Agricultural statistics, (2) statistics of railborne and seaborne trade, (3) statistics of prices of important commodities, (4) statistics regarding the cost of living of low paid industrial workers in the towns of Trichur and Ernakulam, (5) statistics of rainfall, (6) statistics of livestock, (7) statistics of unskilled labour in the State, (8) plantation statistics relating to rubber, tea and coffee and (9) statistics of mineral production in the State.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No. Because some of these statistics do not admit of being published, being of a confidential nature intended only for official use for the present, whereas in the case of some others their accuracy has to be further tested, before publication.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Urakam):* Are not the answers to B of Question No 18 and C of this question mutually contradictory.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* They are not.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Urakam):* In answer to question A of Question 18 Government says that they have been preparing the cost of living index numbers for the towns of Trichur and Ernakulam basing them on the Calicut data. In answer to sub-division to A it is seen they have collected statistical information on many subjects but according to C it is seen they have not published any such information till now.

M. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Collection does not mean final tabulation of figures. The work of collection is also not finished with respect of some of these items.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Will the Government be pleased to give information, statistical information, on such subjects to persons in need of them. In answer to C it is also said that because some of these statistics do not admit of being published.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* In answer to a previous question, Question No. 18 it has been answered that these statistics are being prepared at present basing them on the Calicut data and therefore they cannot said to be correct.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Is the cost of living higher at Ernakulam than at Calicut?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is higher here than Calicut. That is because the price of commodities like rice is higher here.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Is there any objection to give information regarding statistics already collected, whatever be the finality about it?

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Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* It is a confidential matter at this stage and it is not proposed to publish things which are not correct. After the family budget enquiry is completed and our own data are found out certainly we will prepare further statistics.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* In answer to C, it is said that some of these statistics do not admit of being published, being of a confidential nature. So then belong to that category, *i.e.*, statistics regarding the cost of living of low paid industrial workers in the Towns of Trichur and Ernakulam. What is confidential about it?

Mr. President: I suggest that the Hon'ble Member read on to the end of the answer to C. The reason why Government cannot publish is that the accuracy of some figures has to be further tested, and that until Government can guarantee their accuracy they consider it to be wrong to publish them.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* When the Government expect the testing completed regarding the accuracy of these figures?

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Urakam):* What all thes 9 items in A have been completed?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Nothing has been completed. Everything is being done.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Urakam):* Are we to infer that some statistics are completed but they are not to be published becau e the are confidential.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* So far as the figures relating to exports and imports are concerned for certain particular purposes, under instructions from the Government of India, those figures are ordered not to published. After the war began these figures are not given out and until therefore a stage comes when Government think that these can be published we have to keep them confidential.

Mr. V. R. Krishnan Ezhuthassan *(Urakam):* How long this collection was taken, this work was commenced?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The office was started in the month of January nearly 1½ years ago. But work on several of these items could be started only very much later.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Do the Hon'ble Member for Revenue, take instructions from the Government of India?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* The customs office is under the Government of India and that is the Agency to collect these figures relating to exports and imports by sea. When we get these figures of statistics from the customs we have to follow the instructions they give us to keep these figures confidential.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* With regard to the statistics of the cost of living of low paid industrial workers there is a trade dispute before an Adjudicator and among other points this is one?

Mr. President: Order, order. I cannot allow any reference to these judicial proceedings.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* I am only asking for statistics because there is a case.

Mr. President: Order, order. The Hon'ble Member said that these figures cannot at this stage be published.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* We want it to be expedited and therefore we ask this question.

Mr. President: I have said I cannot say when it will be possible to give any figures.

PROMOTIONS, ETC.—OFFICERS IN THE FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

20. മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എ. രാഘവൻ: താഴെ പറയുന്ന ചോദ്യങ്ങൾക്ക് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവൺമെണ്ടിൽനിന്നു സദയം മറുപടി നല്ലാമൊ.—

ഗവൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ മറ്റെല്ലാ വകുപ്പിലേയും ജീവിതക്കാക്ക് ലഭിക്കുന്നതുപോലെയുള്ള പ്രമോഷനും increments-ും ഫിഷറീസ് വകുപ്പിലെ ജീവനക്കാക്ക് ലഭിക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ എ. മാധവപ്രഭു: ഫിഷറീസ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിന്റെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ നിലയിൽ മാരോക്തത്തക്കം കിട്ടാവുന്ന പ്രമോഷനും ശമ്പളമുടുതലും അതിലെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാക്ക് കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ട്.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* Whether there is any proposal for the reorganisation of the Fishery Department?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* Yes. There is a proposal.

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